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*Notice of some Vital Statistics of the United States, in a Letter to the Hon. Horace Mann, by MR. EDWARD JARVIS, of Dorchester, Massachusetts, United States, dated 22nd April, 1845. Abstracted and compared with the Statistics of England and Wales. By THOS. LAYCOCK, M.D.*

[Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association, at Cambridge, 23rd June, 1845.]

THE total white population of the States in 1840 was 14,261,638. This population was thus distributed according to age and latitude—

Ages.	NORTHERN DIVISION.	MIDDLE DIVISION.	SOUTHERN DIVISION.
	Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin.	New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Columbia, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky.	North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Tennessee.
0— 5	Lat. 41° to 46°. 721,202	Lat. 36° to 42°. 1,244,375	Lat. 29° to 36°. 509,990
5— 10	622,307	1,031,403	400,680
10— 15	554,918	830,214	329,028
15— 20	538,768	739,030	271,141
20— 30	955,589	1,210,365	443,184
30— 40	614,337	799,298	272,135
40— 50	399,909	471,283	167,622
50— 60	246,442	276,959	96,129
60— 70	146,096	156,410	52,021
70— 80	77,761	52,624	21,237
80— 90	23,001	16,599	6,007
90—100	2,584	2,221	985
100 and } upwards	167	371	245
Total....	4,900,081	6,791,152	2,570,404

The proportions of these quinquennial ages reduced to the proportion of 100,000, is as follows:—

Ages.	Northern Division.	Middle Division.	Southern Division.	England and Wales.
0— 5	14,718	18,323	18,840	13,240
5— 10	12,679	15,031	15,587	11,970
10— 15	11,324	12,224	12,800	10,890
15— 20	10,995	10,862	10,540	9,970
20— 30	19,501	17,822	17,202	17,800
30— 40	12,531	10,738	10,589	12,890
40— 50	8,159	6,939	6,521	9,590
50— 60	5,029	4,078	3,739	6,450
60— 70	2,981	2,303	2,023	4,400
70— 80	1,586	907	826	2,160
80— 90	469	244	233	590
90—100	52	32	38	{ } 50
100 and } upwards	3	5·5	9	

Or to reduce these numbers still further

Age.	Northern Division.	Middle Division.	Southern Division.	England and Wales.
Under 20	49,716	56,440	57,767	46,000
20 to 40	32,032	28,560	27,791	30,690
40 to 60	13,188	11,017	10,260	16,040
60 to 80	4,567	3,200	2,849	6,560
80 & upwards	424	281 $\frac{1}{2}$	280	.....
Approximate average age	23.29 yrs.	22 yrs.	19.44 yrs.	.....
Medium age....	20 yrs. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mths.	17 yrs. 4 mths.	16 yrs. 3 mths.	.....

The decrement per cent. of the white population of the United States as compared with England is as follows:—

Ages.	Northern Division.	Middle Division.	Southern Division.	England and Wales.
0 to 5	13.71	16.31	21.43	
5 — 10	10.82	18.53	17.88	17.55
10 — 15	2.91	10.99	17.59	14.10
	Increment.	Increment.	Increment.	
15 — 20	77.36	63.77	63.45	
	Decrement.	Decrement.	Decrement.	
20 — 30	35.71	38.09	38. 6	28.33
30 — 40	34. 9	37.14	38. 4	25.59
40 — 50	38.37	41.21	42.65	33.26
50 — 60	40.71	43.49	47. 9	32.14
60 — 70	46.77	59.96	59.19	50. 9
70 — 80	70. 3	73.44	71. 7	73.02
80 — 90	88.76	86.61	83. 6	91.77
90 — 100	93.53	71.33	75.12	
and upwards				

*Sanitary Statistics of Dorchester and Brookline, Massachusetts: and of Louisville and other Towns on the Mississippi.*

The deaths in Dorchester from 1817 to 1844 were 1767, and they took place at different ages, in different conditions of life as follows:—

RATIO PER CENT.					
Ages.	Farmers.	Merchants.	Mechanics.	Labourers.	Total.
under 1 year	9.0	15.45	22.19	23.78	18.44
1 and under 2	3.4	6.11	6.48	7.60	6.22
2 to 5	6.44	7.64	8.22	8.15	7.75
5 — 10	0.75	4.24	4.23	4.2	3.73
10 — 20	4.16	6.45	6.48	3.7	5.32
20 — 30	11.74	10.0	8.47	10.33	10.0
30 — 40	4.92	11.71	8.72	10.13	9.56
40 — 50	7.95	8.65	6.73	8.96	8.2
50 — 60	9.47	6.95	7.48	7.4	7.58
60 — 70	14.39	7.47	8.47	5.65	8.2
70 — 80	12.50	9.0	8.47	4.85	8.2
80 — 90	12.87	5.09	3.24	3.70	5.43
90 and upwards	2.27	1.18	0.74	1.35	1.3

## PER CENTAGE OF DEATHS TO TOTAL DEATHS.

Age.	Dorchester, Massachusetts.	Sheffield in 1840-41.	Devon.	
Under 5	32.41	48.60	30.59	
5 to 10	3.73	4.80	4.31	
10 — 20	5.32	5.85	5.28	
20 — 30	10.00	6.10	6.87	
30 — 40	9.56	5.97	5.78	
40 — 50	8.20	7.02	5.78	
50 — 60	7.58	5.10	6.63	
60 — 70	8.20	6.73	10.22	
70 — 80	8.20	5.89	13.50	
80 — 90	5.43	1.71	9.09	
90 and } upwards }	1.30	0.12	1.63	

From this table drawn up, as regards Dorchester, by Mr. Jarvis, it does not appear that proportions of deaths at the age specified, are to the number living at these ages, but rather to the number of deaths in each class; as for example, of 100 deaths of the farming class 12 were at ages between 70 and 80, while of the same number of deaths in the class of mechanics only 3 were of those ages.

The average age at death was as follows:—

	Number of Deaths.	Average Age at Death.
Farmers .....	264 .....	45 years 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ months.
Merchants, &c. ....	589 .....	33 " 3 "
Mechanics .....	401 .....	29 " 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Labourers .....	513 .....	27 " 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Total and average ....	1,767	32 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

The sanitary condition of Dorchester is, according to these results, closely analogous to that of the large towns of England.

The number of deaths in middle adult age, shows that there is an accession of an immigrant adult population, as occurs also in the large towns of England; and the smaller proportion of aged persons compared with Devon, is in favour of an opinion that the salubrity of Dorchester in Massachusetts, is inferior to that of the county of Devon. The larger proportion of the deaths of aged persons among the better conditioned classes of society in Dorchester, shows also, that as with us the private hygiene of the people has a very considerable influence on the mortality. Thus 42 persons of the total deaths were aged above 60, in the farmer class, while only 15 per cent. of the deaths in labouring class attained that age.